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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 20030102-02

II. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for dispensing volumes of liquids, comprising:
a hinged septum ~~for installation to a~~ ^{the} ~~installed on~~ ^{said} liquid channel, having a flap inclined at an inward angle with respect to a longitudinal axis of the liquid channel, and
a deposition device ~~arranged to contact~~ that contacts the flap ~~to deposit and deposits~~ liquid on the flap. *intended use*
2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the flap includes a rim ~~having a shape that substantially matches~~ shaped to substantially match a contour of an inner wall of the liquid channel, ~~such that the liquid channel may be sealed along the rim of the flap.~~
3. (Currently Amended) *what constitutes rough? relative* The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the flap includes a surface, ~~for providing~~ roughened to provide a defined termination of a stream of the liquid or a breakaway of droplets of the liquid.
4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the flap ~~is fabricated from~~ comprises an elastic foil.
5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the flap subdivides the liquid channel into a first chamber and a second chamber when the latter is in a sealed state.
6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5, ~~wherein the flap is attached to~~ a further comprising a hinge attached to the liquid channel and the flap, that exerts an elastic restoring force on the flap directed toward the first chamber.
7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the flap comprises a surface that accommodates liquid, at which the deposition device contacts the flap ~~at a surface for accommodating liquid.~~
8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the deposition device is ~~arranged to contact~~ contacts a face of the flap that faces the first chamber ~~when the hinged septum is properly installed in the liquid channel.~~

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9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a rim of the flap contacts an inner wall of the liquid channel, forming a liquid-tight seal therewith, thereby forming a valve, such that, in the sealed state, the liquid channel will be blocked with respect to leakage of liquid from a second chamber into a first chamber, while leakage of liquid from the first chamber into the second chamber will be possible when the flap is swung to an opened position by an actuating device of the deposition device.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, including a single hinge attached to the flap near its rim.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hinge ~~is configured in the form of~~ comprises a leaf-spring-hinge.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hinge and flap form a monolithic structure.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hinge is fixed to a fastener fixed to the liquid channel.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hinge is fixed to the liquid channel.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hinged septum includes a hinge and a gasket base and ~~one~~ a first end of the hinge is attached to the flap and ~~another~~ a second end of the hinge is attached to a gasket base.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the hinge, flap, and the gasket base form a monolithic structure.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~claim 1~~ claim 6, wherein the hinge and the flap are fabricated from a flexible elastic foil.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~a rim of the flap is~~ comprises a rim in the form of an ellipse.

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21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the hinge is arranged along a major axis of the ellipse.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the foil has a thickness less than either a width of the flap or an inner diameter of the liquid channel.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the thickness of the foil is less than 1/50 of either the width of the flap or the inner diameter of the liquid channel.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the foil is configured such that it may swivel and/or twist and/or buckle when acted upon by ~~at~~the restoring force exerted by the hinge.

25. (Cancelled) ~~The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the flap has a roughened surface for guiding liquid.~~

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~claim 25~~claim 3, wherein the roughened surface includes a number of mutually parallel microchannels.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the roughened surface has a sawtooth profiled cross section at an angle to the microchannels.

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the flap has hydrophilic and/or hydrophobic liquid pathways.

29. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the microchannels extend away from the hinge.

30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the liquid pathways extend away from the hinge.

31. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a liquid-separation equipment including:

a hinged septum ~~for installation~~installed on a liquid channel having a flap inclined at an inward angle with respect to a longitudinal axis of a liquid channel, and

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a deposition device ~~arranged to contact~~ that contacts the flap to deposit liquid
on the flap.

32. (Previously Presented) A method for dispensing volumes of liquids, comprising:

installing into a liquid channel a hinged septum having a flap inclined at an angle with
respect to a longitudinal axis of the liquid channel, and

using a deposition device to contact the flap and deposit a liquid on a surface of the
flap.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, further comprising using the
deposition device as an actuating device for swinging the flap from a closed position to an
opened position.